

16 May 1966

Memorandum for: Director of Research and Reports
Subject: ORR's Participation in the Recent NIPP Project

1. Now that we have finally completed the National Intelligence Projections for Planning on Soviet Military Forces through 1974, I want to thank and compliment your office for its participation. Individuals and components of ORR, mainly from the Military Research Area, worked long and hard in support of this project. Their participation included preparing contributions, supporting ONE and the USIB representatives in meetings, and in several cases chairing subcommittees assigned to explore particular problem areas in detail. Much of the final quantification of our estimates was the direct result of ORR's efforts, and the manpower and costing analyses would not have been possible at all without ORR.

2. As you know, the NIPP project is prepared at the specific request of the Office of the Secretary of Defense, to provide a companion-piece to the DOD Five-Year Program for the US military establishment. Its importance is therefore self-evident. We will need to plan for a continuing annual effort of this type on the USSR, and to attempt the same sort of exercise with respect to East Europe and Communist China as soon as it is feasible.

3. May I also thank you for the promptness with which the NIPP findings on military expenditures were converted by ORR into an analysis of broad trends in Soviet military expenditures. This analysis has been a valuable contribution to our present work on NIE 11-4-66.

4. Ed Proctor, who as a Board member had overall responsibility for the NIPP project this year, joins me in this expression.

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Sherman Kent